## In the Claims

- 1 15 (Cancelled)
- 16. (New) A foamed polyimide shaped article obtained by molding and then calcining a mixture of pulverized pieces of a pre-foamed polyimide resin mass and a heat resistant binder selected from the group consisting of polyamic acids and end-modified imide oligomers.
- 17. (New) The foamed polyimide shaped article as set forth in claim 16, wherein the pre-foamed polyimide resin mass is comprised of a polymer obtained using as an essential component a 2,3,3',4'-biphenyl tetracarboxylic acid component as an aromatic tetracarboxylic acid component.
- 18. (New) The foamed polyimide shaped article as set forth in claim 16, wherein the pre-foamed polyimide resin mass is obtained using as a diamine component a diamine having two amino groups in a molecule or an amine compound comprised of a mixture of diamine having two groups and ones having three or more groups.
- 19. (New) The foamed polyimide shaped article as set forth in claim 16, wherein said heat resistant binder is an end-modified imide oligomer obtained by reacting a biphenyl tetracarboxylic acid, an aromatic diamine compound, and 4-(2-phenylethynyl)anhydrous phthalic acid and having a logarithmic viscosity (ηinh, 30°C, 0.5 g/100 ml solvent, solvent: N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone) of 0.05 to 1.
- 20. (New) The foamed polyimide shaped article as set forth in claim 16, wherein the heat resistant binder is an end-modified imide oligomer of the formula:

(wherein, X is an aromatic diamine residual group and n is an integer).

- 21. (New) The foamed polyimide shaped article as set forth in claim 16, wherein the heat resistant binder has a melt viscosity at the temperature of use of 1 to 1000000 poise.
- 22. (New) The foamed polyimide shaped article as set forth in claim 16, wherein the heat resistant binder has a glass transition temperature (Tg) of at least 300°C after calcining (curing by heating) and a flexural strength of at least 1300 kgf/cm<sup>2</sup>.
- 23. (New) The foamed polyimide shaped article as set forth in claim 16, wherein the heat resistant binder is mixed into the pulverized pieces of the pre-foamed polyimide resin mass at a ratio of 2 to 30 wt%.
- 24. (New) The foamed polyimide shaped article as set forth in claim 16, having a heat resistance free from changes in appearance after a heat resistance test at 300°C for 60 minutes.
- 25. (New) The foamed polyimide shaped article as set forth in claim 16, wherein the density is 0.01 to 0.8 g/cm<sup>3</sup>.
- 26. (New) A process for producing a foamed polyimide shaped article comprising pulverizing a pre-foamed polyimide resin mass, mixing the pulverized pieces with a heat resistant binder selected from the group consisting of polyamic acids and end-modified imide oligomers, molding the mixture to a predetermined shape, then calcining the mixture at a temperature of at least 350°C to cure the binder and strongly bond the polyimide foam mass.
- 27. (New) The process as set forth in claim 26, wherein the heat resistant binder has a melt viscosity at the temperature of use of 1 to 1000000 poise.
- 28. (New) The process as set forth in claim 26, wherein the heat resistant binder is a polyamic acid obtained using as an essential component a 2,3,3',4'-biphenyl tetracarboxylic acid component as an aromatic tetracarboxylic acid component.
- 29. (New) The process as set forth in claim 26, wherein the pre-foamed polyimide resin mass has a density of 0.0005 to 0.1 g/cm<sup>3</sup>.